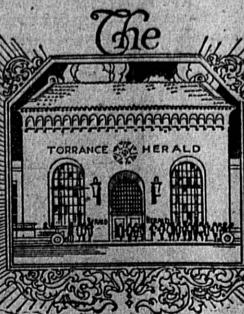


A Newspaper  
for All the People  
All the Time

Torrance



herald

Torrance  
Population  
8200

FIFTEENTH YEAR—No. 45

TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, NOV. 7, 1929

5c per Copy

# CROWDS ATTEND WATER DISCUSSION

## VAGUE PROMISES OF WATER CO. OFFICIALS UNSATISFACTORY

Citizens in Audience Fire Pertinent Questions to Officials of Present Water Company

NEXT MOVE UP TO THE PEOPLE, SAYS COUNCIL

Council Refuses to Call Election Until Petitions from Electors Are Presented

After a stormy session of the City Council Tuesday evening characterized by fiery shots from the audience, enlightening explanations by Mayor Dennis and City Engineer Leonard, vague and unsatisfactory promises from water company officials, and sympathetic considerations for water company officials on the part of Councilmen Nelson and Steiner, the much discussed water question emerged from the smoke of a three and a half hour battle in exactly the same status it occupied at the beginning of the public hearing.

Mayor John Dennis explained at the beginning of the meeting that officials of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company were present and wished to explain their position in regard to the water situation. He reviewed the activities of the special water committee appointed by Harry H. Dolley, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and later made the official committee of the City Council. The Mayor stated very forcibly that neither the water committee nor the Council were trying to "put anything over in a hurry," but that the complaints had originated with the people of Torrance and he felt that final action and authorization for a new system should also be left to the will of the people.

"We started this investigation at the request of the people," the committee has spent two and a half months investigating the situation and has made its report," said the Mayor. "The Council is not trying to put anything over, but on the contrary the Council wishes to refer the matter back to the people to decide whether they want a new municipal system, buy the present system, or leave things as they are. There will be nothing put over except by the people," the Mayor exclaimed.

A. J. Roberti, general manager of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company as well as a number of other water companies in the northern part of the State, explained that he and a number of other officials of the parent company had been in Torrance for the past two weeks examining the present system and developing means of improving the water. He stated that he had taken up the matter of the quality of the water with the Dominguez Water Company but that nothing had been done. He stated that his company had under advisement several plans for correcting the present objectionable quality of the water. Upon being questioned by City officials and spectators in the audience, as to just what the present water company would do, Mr. Roberti answered in generalities and made no definite announcement as to just what means would be employed by his company to correct the situation, but kept reiterating that his company would see that the quality of the water was improved. He added that some of the plans under advisement by the water company included drilling of wells in Torrance and the development of a water supply independent of the Dominguez Water Company wells.

"We have in mind improvements that may run as high as \$50,000," said Mr. Roberti, "but before spending money for these improvements you would want some assurance from the City of Torrance that our money will not be wasted by the City ignoring our investment by paralleling our lines with a municipal system. The Torrance

## CHILD HIT BY TRUCK HAS LEG BROKEN

John Pappas, 9 Years Old, Taken to Hospital After Accident on Carson

John Pappas, nine year old son of Mrs. Rose Pappas of 1555 Carson street, was run down by a truck driven by William E. Frost, employee of the Union Tool, while walking down the road near Carson and Artesano about 6 p. m. Friday evening.

The child was taken to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, where it was found that he had a fractured leg. Police authorities were asked to search for the child's parents to notify them of the accident, but they failed to locate the Pappas home. Later in the evening inquiry was made by the family and the union between the injured child and his parents was soon made.

## FIRE LADDIES WILL DANCE NOVEMBER 16

Seventeenth Annual Ball Will Be Held at American Recreation Hall

The seventeenth annual ball of the Torrance Fire department will be given at the American Recreation hall Saturday evening, November 16.

Money obtained from this affair is put in the firemen's fund and used for worthy causes when the occasion arises.

A. H. Buehler, P. O. City and J. A. Buehler are on the tickets and window card committee and Bill Scott, Ed Little and Walter Sills comprise the arrangements committee.

## Some of Stores to Close Monday

Chain stores in Torrance will remain open as usual on Armistice Day, Monday, November 11, but a large number of independent merchants have stated that they will close their stores all day.

## EDITORIAL

### A CALL TO ACTION FOR BETTER AND CHEAPER WATER

If the people of Torrance are to get relief from malodorous water and high rates, it is apparent that they will have to initiate the action themselves. The City Council went on record Tuesday evening as opposed to calling an election on the water situation unless they were petitioned by the electorate to do so. So now the next move is up to the people.

Petitions have been prepared by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce asking the City Council to call an election for the purpose of approving bonds for the construction of a new municipally owned water system.

Let's sign the petitions and bring the issue to a vote. It will take six weeks before an election can be held and in the meantime we can find out all we wish to know about the various angles of the bond issue and the proposed new system.

Nothing can be gained by prolonging the issue. The Council and a hundred people in the audience discussed the problem for nearly four hours Tuesday evening and the situation was exactly the same after the meeting as it was before. It is true many facts were brought out but no action was taken. Of course, the voters should have all the facts before they vote, but surely in the six weeks that it will take between now and the time the election is called, we can learn all we wish to know.

So I say again, Let's sign the petitions, and get it over with!

Hundreds of people have expressed a willingness to help in the battle for better and cheaper water. NOW IS THE TIME! Call at either the Torrance Herald or the Chamber of Commerce, get a petition and secure signatures among your friends and acquaintances. Let's keep the ball rolling along. The water may be a little better during the winter months but next Spring and Summer it probably will be worse than ever.

A copy of the petition is printed below. Read it. Then come to the Chamber of Commerce or the Torrance Herald and SIGN IT.

### Petition for Special Election

To the Honorable City Council, Torrance, California.

Gentlemen: We, the undersigned qualified electors residing within the following described district of the City of Torrance: bounded by the east city limits, Camino Real on the south, Hawthorne avenue on the west, and the north line of Huntington street and its easterly prolongation to the city limits of Torrance; hereby petition your honorable body to call a special election within the above described district and submit to the electors thereof the following questions:

**CITY BOND PROPOSITION**  
Shall the City of Torrance incur a bonded indebtedness in the sum of \$410,000 for the purpose of acquiring real property and developing water wells thereon and constructing and/or acquiring all necessary physical equipment, pumps, reservoirs, storage tanks, distributing mains, meters, services, etc., and install such equipment to provide a district in the City of Torrance and lying within the above described area with a complete municipal district water works?

**REFERENDUM PROPOSITION**  
Shall the City of Torrance acquire parts or portions of the properties and equipment of the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company to be used in conjunction with the development of a municipal district water works as may be authorized by the above bond proposition?

This bond proposition shall be submitted under such legislative authority as in your judgment best meets the requirements for this procedure.

## Armistice Day Services Held In Churches Sunday

The Armistice Day program will be given this year in the First Methodist Church Sunday morning, and at the First Christian church, Sunday evening, according to officers of the Bert S. Crossland Post, American Legion and the Legion Auxiliary. There will be no service on Monday.

A special patriotic service has been planned by Rev. R. A. Young Sunday morning. Patriotic music will be given by the choir and quartette. Commander Bailey of the American Legion will call the members of the local post and the congregation to attention for silent prayer for the fallen heroes after which taps will be called by Dallas Danford. Rev. Young's sermon will be "Bought at a Price—Ye Are Not Your Own." The scripture will be read by Rev. B. H. Linsenfeiler.

The Sunday service to which the

## Won't You Miss That Whistle?

The curfew shall not blow tonight! Or any night hereafter! But this doesn't mean that youngsters are not required to be off the streets and tucked away in their homes at 9 o'clock. On motion of the Council Tuesday evening, the officials of the Union Tool Division of the National Supply Company, were requested to hereafter refrain from blowing the factory whistle at 9 o'clock each evening. The action brought loud applause from the Council Chamber audience.

R. R. Smith explained that the Union Tool Division had been blowing the whistle as a courtesy of the City, and that at any time they were requested to stop it by City officials they would be glad to do so.

## TIMES LAUDS STEEL ENTRY

That the purchase by the United States Steel Corporation of the Columbia plant at Torrance is recognized as the most important industrial development in Southern California during the past few years was conceded this week by the Los Angeles Times in the publication of the following editorial:

**Steel Possibilities**  
United States Steel's purchase of the Columbia Steel properties, including the plant at Torrance, is one of the most significant events in Los Angeles industrial development in recent years.

United States Steel is more or less the bell wether of the industrial world but until now it has not reached California territory. The growing importance of the Southland, made the move not only advisable, but almost necessary.

Numerous possibilities are foreseen by men interested in the steel industry. Most important is the probability that the presence of this great concern in the field will result in one or more of its leading competitors, such as Bethlehem Steel, likewise building plants in California. Competition is keen in the steel business and the large operators are not prone to overlook future markets.

It is to be hoped that United States Steel will enlarge the Torrance plant by building a tube mill. Southern California, because of its oil industry, is a mammoth consumer of pipe, buying in excess of \$30,000,000 annually, and has to import all of this material because there is no mill on the coast.

Development of a tube mill here would not only eliminate the necessity of importation of this material, but would, moreover, increase the Torrance pay roll and keep additional California dollars at home.

Definite information as to just what expansions will be made at Torrance is expected shortly when officials of the corporation will visit the local plant.

## Dirigible Base Lost to Torrance

Hope of locating the Navy dirigible base in Torrance was lost this week when the special naval investigating committee recommended to Secretary Adams that either Sunnyvale or San Diego be chosen. Sunnyvale is a small town between San Jose and Palo Alto. San Francisco and Los Angeles civic organizations are reported to be strongly organized to support the respective sites in Northern and Southern California.

Both San Diego and Sunnyvale have offered the Government 1000 acre sites free.

## Little Boy Is Struck by Truck Arm Is Broken

Earl Watson, two and a half year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Watson, 1346 25th street, sustained a fractured arm Saturday when he was struck by a Davis Perfection Bakery truck backing out of the Watson yard.

He was treated at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital.

## EDISON ERECTS BIG STATION FOR TORRANCE INDUSTRY AREA

Two Million Dollar Electrical La Brea Center Now Building in Territory Adjacent to Torrance

Marking a departure in distributing center construction, the Southern California Edison company is now building the La Brea substation between Torrance and Redondo Beach as the ninth major high-voltage station on the "backbone" of the transmission system linking its hydro-electric and steam generating plants. Approximately \$2,000,000 will be expended for construction of the station and transmission lines, according to H. H. Ballard, president of the company.

The huge new substation is wholly within the proposed annexation to Torrance. New designs in installation of transformer and switching equipment have been perfected for the new station, which will be of 200,000 horsepower capacity and will provide improved electrical service to a wide area northwest of the Edison company's Long Beach steam plant. The La Brea station, to go into public service about April 1, 1930, is the first instance of construction of a major distribution point on a branch of the main 220,000 volt transmission lines that span Southern and Central California.

**Newest Type Equipment**  
Notable economies of construction have been made possible in the new type of station and opening problems will be simplified in the use of improved and readily accessible equipment. The substation building itself, will be one of the most modern on the Edison company system. The steel frame was welded to provide great strength and assurance against any possible earthquake stress. It will be heated and ventilated automatically by electrically controlled apparatus and will be virtually soundproof from within and without. Particular attention is being paid to lighting the interior. The operating control board will be illuminated in such manner that there will be no shadows nor reflections against the instruments on the board.

Transformers and switching equipment will be installed in the La Brea station, the equipment representing the latest developments in electrical distribution and control apparatus. There will be six transformers of 33,523 horsepower capacity each. All will be oil insulated, air blast self-cooling and each will weigh 238,000 pounds, containing 16,133 gallons of oil. Each transformer is to be thirty-seven feet high over-all and more than twenty-one feet in diameter. The twenty-four switches, also oil insulated, will weigh 876,000 pounds and each will contain 3400 gallons of oil. Approximately 11,792 feet of copper tubing will be used.

**Will Serve Big Area**  
Three miles of steel towers that will carry the transmission lines between the La Brea station and the Lighthouse station north of the Long Beach steam generating plant have been constructed and work on the remaining six miles is under way. Nearly 3000 tons of steel will be required for the transmission line towers alone, all of it being furnished from Southern California mills.

In constructing this important station as the first instance of locating a primary distribution point away from the general north and south line of the high voltage system, the Edison company is making provision for 220,000 volt transmission and distribution facilities to the area west of Los Angeles and north along the coast to include the Torrance industrial and entire Santa Monica Bay areas where industrial and residential growth has been phenomenal. The new station will share in the distribution early next year of additional energy to be made available from the Long Beach steam plant where another 134,000 horsepower generating unit is now nearing completion.

## Torrance Community Chest Drive Starts Tomorrow

With a quota of \$1800 as its goal for tomorrow morning will start taking subscriptions to the Torrance Community Chest. The fund will be divided between the Torrance Relief Society—this city's only organized charity and the Boy Scouts.

The Torrance Relief Society is made up of women who devote time and energy without pay or financial reward—to alleviate the sufferings of unfortunate. Every cent of money goes into actual relief work.

Members of the organization report an urgent need of funds at this time of the year. It has long been the boast of the society that at Christmas time no family in Torrance ever was forgotten.

Those closest in touch with the organization marvel at the devotion of the members who spend long hours mending clothes for impoverished families and investigating cases which are reported as needing charity.

The Boy Scouts of America conduct three troops in this city. All the troops are active. The Scouts have a small clubhouse near Legion Hall and take part in almost every public civic activity in Torrance. The finances which the Scouts will receive go to pay for adult supervision and other expenses incidental to Scouting in Torrance.

J. W. Post and Sam Levy are in charge of the campaign and will be assisted by other workers.

Mr. Post said this week: "This is the only charitable campaign conducted in Torrance. We do not participate in the Community Chest of Los Angeles. The fact that every cent collected here will go directly into worthy work should prompt everyone to contribute as generously as possible. While Torrance does not require as much charity work as larger cities, that which is required is of the most stringent character. It is not only a privilege but a duty to help such organizations as the Torrance Relief Society and the Boy Scouts."

The campaign workers will continue their personal solicitations to business houses and industrial offices, but the entire citizenry is urged to contribute to the worthy fund. A coupon is printed below for the use of factory workers and other residents of Torrance who do not conduct a business of their own. People are urged by the committee to fill out this coupon and mail it to the Community Chest, care of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. The committee also asks that at least half of the subscribed amount be paid at the time the subscription is given.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND MAIL TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, TORRANCE, CALIF.

COMMUNITY CHEST DRIVE

I hereby subscribe \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Torrance Community Chest which I understand covers two years' activities of the Torrance Relief Society and the Boy Scouts of America.

Check or Money Is Included for \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## LOOKIT KIDS!

### Cash Prizes

\$10 - \$5 - \$3

### Fill Santa's Sleigh!

Hey kids! Here's loads and loads of fun for you. Help fill Santa's Sleigh and earn your Christmas money, too! Get out your crayons or water colors and see how easy it is to do.

Here's what you have to do: Look on page four and five of the second section of this issue and you will find a big Santa's Sleigh filled with boxes of gifts. Now look through the advertisements of the various merchants and other business places and clip out the items marked, "For Santa's Sleigh." Paste these in the boxes on Santa's Sleigh, with the name of the store which is advertising the gift. If you don't find enough items in this week's issue, watch for them next week. Then you can color the sleigh and the loads of gifts.

Here are the prizes: The boy or girl who finds the most items and colors them the most attractively, the Torrance Herald will give \$10 in cash. For the next best Sleigh, \$5.00 in cash will be given, and for the third best Sleigh, \$3.00 in cash.

The picture of Santa's Sleigh will only appear in this week's issue, so be sure and save it. The items to paste in the Sleigh will be found in advertisements in this week and next week's issues.

Just look through the advertisements very carefully and find the items marked, "For Santa's Sleigh." Clip them out and paste them on the gift boxes. Then color them if you wish, as you are more apt to win a prize.

Your Sleigh Picture must be at the Torrance Herald office, 1336 El Prado, not later than Saturday, November 23rd at 12 o'clock noon. The prize winners will be announced the following Thursday, November 28th, in both the Torrance Herald and the Lomita News. And that very day, the prize money will be awarded—almost a whole month before Christmas so you will have plenty of time to shop in Torrance and pick out the things you want to buy.

Now, don't forget, the first thing to do is to SAVE PAGES FOUR AND FIVE OF THE SECOND SECTION OF THIS ISSUE. Then get busy with the scissors and clip out the items in the advertisements of this week and next week. You'll have to look closely as some of them will be sorta' hard to find. Maybe Mama or Papa will help you find the items. Just ask them. But you will have to paste them in Santa's Sleigh and do the coloring yourself.

ONLY 48 DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS